

LONDON'S NEW BAILEY

Old Prison's Successor Is Gaudy Structure.

ARRANGEMENT INCONVENIENT

seats for Only Five Newspaper Men
"Old Bailey" Made Memorable by
Charles Dickens, Who Treated of
Its Environment in Three of His
Best Known Novels.

The new architecture of London does not lack variety, and that is perhaps the one feeling that can be said of it. The streets of London are a succession of a medley of styles and periods, with Gothic, Renaissance, sham classic, and modernized French and Italian jostling one another out of dignity, writes I. N. Ford to the New York Tribune. In the Strand the law courts designed by Mr. Street remain unrivaled by scores of recent structures as a magnificent example of new architecture, while the new war office in Whitehall and the new law courts in the board of trade and the local government board, opposite Westminster Abbey are costly and pretentious buildings, each with four towers, neither has the distinction and simplicity of the Scottish baronial pile designed by Norman Shaw for the metropolitan police, and each shrinks into insignificance when compared with

The New Bailey is Mr. Mountford's contribution to the latter-day glories of the metropolis. It has a tower and a dome, perhaps these were indispensable when St. Paul's was so close; and justice, with sword and scales, has a lofty perch 20 feet above the street level. With a fine

exterior ought to be more impressive than it is; and the interior of the criminal courts, on the site of Newgate prison ought to be more commodious. Modern architects seem to exhaust their resources

The Old Bailey is said to exhaust their resources in designing highly decorative exterior and splendid central halls. The new admiralty offices is perhaps the only one of the new buildings in which the rooms are well lighted and in which can be done comfortably. The law courts, Somerset House, the treasury, and the public offices in Whitehall beyond it, have probably the darkest rooms and the most inconvenient arrangements for working forces of public servants to be found in any great capital. The New Bailey, with the main criminal court for a metropolis of 5,000,000 of the just and the unjust, has seats for five press men!

Dickens Knew It Well.

The Old Bailey was a corner of London at the time of Dickens.

when Dickens knew every stone in the district described the quarter in detail in three of his books. It was the scene, in 1770, of Charles Darnay's trial in "A Tale of Two Cities," where the pillory and whippersnappers were ornaments of "a kind of headlong inn-yard, or public-house, paved over and used continually in carts and coaches on a violent passage to the other world." That was five years before the burning of Newgate and the liberation of the prisoners by Lord George Gordon's followers—events which were described in "Barnaby Rudge." Newgate was then a new building, the George Street Gaol, built in 1770, out from the twelfth century there had been cells, a gallows-tree, and all the rough implements of justice on the floor.

nous site. When Pip came up to London the prison was a grim stone building with the black dome of St. Paul's tower looming above it. The collection of cells was arranged like a fan, radiating from a central hall, under the dome. Pip was now see marble pillars, stained glass painted panels, and a series of portraits of famous men; and the stately marble corridors leading out of it into oak-paneled courtrooms and offices would be with the gravel and mequet of the felons.

ward which came under his eyes. It would now be as difficult for him to find the office of Mr. Jagers, the Old Baffle lawyer near by in Bartholomew Close, as it would be for honest, obstinate Gabriel Varden to identify the spot where he was jostled and roughly handled in the riot.

Environment Has Changed.

Everything around the reconstructed courthouse has changed except the church opposite, St. Sepulchre, where the bell used to be tolled when a murderer was hanged, and where, during an earlier period, a nosegay was presented to every condemned criminal when he set out in

The Blue Coat school with its picturesque facade and grounds has since gone and the quest for the little room where Coleridge, Southey, and Lamb were wont to recite verses in their youth would be as idle as the hunt for "The Salutation at Cat" where Sir Christopher Wren used to smoke his pipe when St. Paul's was under construction. Old Norman St. Bartholomew's is close at hand, having survived the vicissitudes of unrestrained restoration; and the Charter House is beyond

and swarms of American tourists find from one to another after May day. Dickens pilgrims have ceased to hunt for the old Saracen's Head, near St. Sepulchre's, whence Mr. Squeers set out with fresh recruits for his Yorkshire school, and while there is still an open square in Clerkenwell, it is not an easy task to follow Charley Bates and the Artful Dodger, nor to run down Mr. Fagin and find local color for the scenes of "Oliver Twist." The New Bailey itself, with its lavish ornamentation and new

She Was Opposed to Slang.

With a Providence school, received the following interesting instruction from a certain fond mother.

This lady was more remarkable for her egotism than for the old school gentility she professed to have.

She had moved into the village from the city and was most solicitous that the well-bred manners of her little daughter Muriel should not be contaminated by contact with the country children.

"Always see that she has your best attention," said she, "and be very careful that she associates with no little child that uses slang, which Muriel has never

heard. Above all, do not have her see near that Williams boy. I knew his father in Providence and (confidentially) they're a bum lot, the whole push e them."

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